

The Sun

50¢

**Welcome to Our World**

The public is invited to attend a Christmas musical, "Welcome to Our World," which will be presented by the Chancel Choir of Community United Methodist Church on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.

As a special holiday message, this presentation welcomes the season of Christmas into our hearts and homes. Bring your family and friends.

All Star Summer Basketball Camp

Applications are now being accepted for The All Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys, ages 8-19, and Girls 10-19, can apply. Players are selected by invitation only.

Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Donaghy, Vince Carter, Ray Shuck, Grant Hill, Bobby Hurley, Antawn Jamison, Christian Laettner, Tom Gugliotta, and Trajan Langdon. Camp locations include: Babson Park, FL; Redlands, CA; Thousand Oaks, CA; Sackville, N.B.; Coquitlam, BC; Champaign, IL; Macomb, IL; Greenacres, IN; Atchison, KS; Midway, KY; Hillsdale, MI; Saint Paul, MN; Fayette MO; Rochester, NY; Belling Springs, NC; North Canton, OH; Lock Haven, PA; Bristol, RI; Lebanon, TN; Commerce City, CO; New Braunfels, TX; Blackburg, VA; Olympia, WA; College Park, MD.

Basketball scholarships are possible for players named to the All-American Team. For an evaluation form call (704) 568-6801 anytime.

Christmas Boat Parade

Pahokee Yacht Club's First Annual Christmas Boat Parade will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16 - weather permitting.

Club members will cast off from the Pahokee Marina at 6:30 p.m. in their decorated boats. Inquiries regarding weather conditions should be made by calling the Pahokee Marina office at 924-7832.

Judging for best Christmas lights decoration

Directors of the Pahokee Chamber of Commerce will be traveling by caravan on Monday night, Dec. 18, looking for the best and brightest Christmas decorations. Judging will be done with the businesses followed by the churches, homes, boats and campers.

Directors annually cover more than 35 miles. Anyone wishing to add their business or home to the judge's list should call the Chamber at 924-5579.

See Sun Spots — Page 2**Lake Level**

11.61 feet above sea level

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Who to contact

NEWS 561-996-4404
sun@flite.net

SPEAK OUT 561-996-6636
sun@flite.net

ADVERTISING 561-996-4404
thesun@flite.net

CLASSIFIED 1-877-353-2424
classified@newszap.com

DELIVERY 1-800-282-9556

New city manager to start on January 8

By Brenda Bunting
Editor

After much negotiation, the City of Belle Glade and Tony Smith have agreed to a contract that will name him as the new city manager on Jan. 8.

Acting City Manager Dave Wood said Mayor D. Bill Mathis and City Attorney Charles Schoech met with Mr. Smith two weeks ago and hammered out a contract that was not only legal, but fair to both parties.

Mr. Smith will be paid a salary of \$85,500 a year, down from the

original negotiated contract of \$85,500 made by former mayor Harma Miller and city staff. He will also not be paid a housing allowance, said Mr. Wood, but will receive moving expenses up to \$5,000 and temporary housing allowances of up to \$8,000 for the first three months.

One of the most contentious portions of the old contract, which City Attorney Schoech said was in violation of the city's charter, has been removed from the new contract, according to Mr. Wood.

Mr. Smith is hired for "an indefinite period of time" as is required by the city's charter. If he is terminated before January of 2002, he will be given three months notice, during which time he will receive his full pay and three months severance pay. After the first year, Mr. Wood says Mr. Smith will have to be given three months notice and one month severance pay.

Mr. Wood has been acting city manager since July when then-city manager Shelton Smith resigned to take a job in Dothan, Alabama. After advertising the

position, Tony Smith was the commission's top choice and he was interviewed in September and a contract was signed by Mrs. Miller, Mr. Smith and City Clerk Debra Bull. But City Attorney Schoech said the contract was invalid because portions of the contract violated the city's charter.

After the September election when then-mayor Miller was ousted by challenger Jeff Hawkins, the commission voted not to hire Mr. Smith. This action caused a conflict in the black community, many of

whom said the action was racially motivated.

The commission reversed its decision on October 16 and agreed to re-negotiate with Mr. Smith.

Mr. Wood said he believes Mr. Smith will move to Belle Glade in December. He said he has already asked for background information about the city's business to prepare himself for the job.

"He really wants this job," said Mr. Wood. "I think he really wants to be a city manager in Palm Beach County."

Governor's Mentoring Initiative to meet at Ameri-Tech

By Tracy Whirls

With a goal of matching 500 Glades area mentors with students in elementary, middle and high schools in Belle Glade, South Bay and Pahokee, organizers of the local Governor's Mentoring Initiative will meet Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. at Ameri-Tech in Boynton Beach.

According to community liaison, Mrs. Zaccagnino, Florida Governor Jeb Bush has set a goal of recruiting 200,000 volunteers across the state, to become involved in schools in some way as mentors. With 8,000 students

See Mentor — Page 2

South Bay moves forward with nature, industrial park projects

By Tracy Whirls

With unemployment at one point reaching 50 percent after the closure of South Bay Growers, the city of South Bay had to make plans to future on the development of its commercial park off US 27 and the development of tourist services catering to the 32,000 people who travel along US 27 everyday.

According to South Bay City Manager Michael Jackson, a native of South Bay, the city's current economic plight started when South Bay Growers closed in 1994, causing 1300 South Bay residents to lose their jobs. A further blow was the decision by U.S. Sugar Corporation to close the corporate facility in South Bay.

"Some of these folks were absorbed by U.S. Sugar, some were retrained and moved into other areas locally. Some moved away or took positions on the lot of folks who are unemployed and need retraining," Mr. Jackson said.

Since 1994, the city has been working with Palm Beach County and the federal government to program to lure industry to the city, to provide employment for its residents and diversify the economy.

Part of the city's problem, Mr. Jackson said, is that there is a lack of residential and business properties in the existing city limits pressuring against the Miami Canal and agricultural lands.

Four years ago, Mr. Jackson said, the city annexed the "Belle City" area on US 27 north of the city incorporating the area north of the RV park for development.

The location of the facility in

area south of the city, including the property where Wackenhut conducted its meth facility, is also involved in the city's future.

"Wackenhut has been a very good neighbor, a good partner of the city," Mr. Jackson said. "The revenues from city utility service to Wackenhut have allowed the city to grow if you will, after losing so much revenue when South Bay Growers closed."

In addition to direct revenue the city receives from the prison for protection and Palm Beach County still receives funds in lieu of taxes.

The location of the facility in

South Bay has also allowed the city to seek state grant money that have funded improvements in the city's water and waste water treatment plants. The city is currently working with the Department of Environmental

Protection and Palm Beach County Health Department to develop a plan to upgrade the facilities to eliminate trihalomethane from the city's drinking water.

After successfully luring Wackenhut to the city, South Bay has continued to work with county, state and federal agencies to negotiate the infrastructure to provide space for businesses seeking to relocate to the area.

Central to this effort is the development of 1.73 acres north of the city that comprises the 96 acre RV park and a 23.1 acre parcel

located in the heart of town.

"As that project goes, so goes the future of South Bay," Mr. Jackson said. "This parcel is going to dictate the future of the city. We have real reason to be excited about the future of South

Bay because a lot of the things we have planned over the years are finally coming to fruition. The possibility of meaningful year long jobs for our residents, and with the development of the Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail, and the Crossroads Market (intended to serve tourists along the trail), South Bay residents will be able to show the uniqueness of the community and the lake area to others. Once the development is in place, people who have been leaving South Bay will have the opportunity to take advantage of the economic opportunities. We want to encourage those who go off to college to come back and take advantage of those opportunities—that's always been our greatest loss in resources," Mr. Jackson said.

The first phase of the development

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City gives okay for new private school site

By Brenda Bunting

Editor

The old Days Inn on South Main Street will soon be converted to a small, private alternative school for students grades one through 12.

Commissioners voted Monday night to allow the use of expansion of the property after hearing there were no objections from residents in the area nor from city staff.

Auditor Jim Garrett, attorney for West Palm Beach Motel Corporation, addressed the commission and said students will attend the school at 1075 South

Main Street, on scholarships. He said it will utilize the front portion of the building and the L-shaped back and upstairs sections of the old motel will be used for classrooms.

The school will serve approximately 50 to 150 students.

■ In other business before the commission Monday night, commissioners voted to

discuss obtaining the old Lakeshore Middle School media center building for use by the community.

Interim City Manager Dave Wood said the building was scheduled for demolition, but County Commissioner Tony Massiotti had asked the city if they would be

interested in saving the building and using it for various organizations. Mr. Garrett said the county would contribute \$85,000 to fix up the media center.

Mayor D. Bill Mathis said several organizations are interested in using the media center. The old gymnasium has also been given to the city by the county and will be used by the Gladson Boys and Girls Club as well as the Police Athletic League.

The media center would be an asset to the city if it could afford it, said Auditor Jim Garrett.

Weeks, referring to the cost of operating and maintaining the building.

Commissioners voted to seek requests for proposals from agencies interested in having space in the media center. Agencies will have about a month to submit proposals.

■ Recognized three city residents who have contributed time and donations to beautify the Christmas lights along South Main Street in front of the Belle Glade Municipal Library.

Recognized with a certificate were Pastor Gary Foll with the First Baptist Church in Belle Glade, and residents Debi Stutsman and Vicki Hayes.

■ Commissioner Donald Garrett requested an audit of all the city's incoming and outgoing monies. He said he would like the audit done before the new city manager, Tony Smith takes office in January. Mr. Wood said the

city's current auditor could do the audit, but it probably could not be done that quickly. Commissioner Garrett said as long as the process was started he would not be concerned if it took a while, but said

he would feel more comfortable with the new city manager if that person could start with a clean slate.

■ Approved 3-2 to fund food for a small Christmas party for the

"snowbirds" who rent at the Belle Glade Marina Campground and money for the annual Tri-City League event held each December.

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Ho! Ho! Ho!

Visions of sugarplums were dancing in these children's heads as they watched Santa make his entrance at the 12th Annual Living Christmas Tree performance held Saturday and Sunday at the Delray Beach Cultural Arts Center.

SFWMD orders water cuts for ag and residential users

Declining water levels in west coast aquifers and in Lake Okeechobee have forced the South Florida Water Management District to impose mandatory water restrictions on various agricultural and urban users.

The District issued emergency orders, effective Nov. 29, calling for:

- Phase 3 agricultural restrictions on the water deliveries that growers receive directly from the lake.

- Phase 2 for the entire lower west coast service area (Lee, Collier, Glades and Hendry counties and southwest Charlotte County); and

- Phase 1 restrictions for the towns surrounding Lake Okeechobee and non-agricultural users in that area.

The agricultural order imposes rationing for the water-use basins of the Everglades Agricultural Area, the lakeshore perimeter, Indian Prairie (northwest of the lake), and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers. The agricultural reductions in water use will range

from 25 percent to 50 percent, depending on rainfall and demand, which the District will calculate weekly.

"Please advise agricultural users and others around Lake Okeechobee that such serious rationing should alert residents of the urban lower east coast, now under a warning for voluntary conservation, that future mandatory restrictions are likely," said Frank R. Finch, P.E., District executive director. "The current healthy water levels in the east coast aquifers and Everglades conservation areas. But the level in the state — the primary water source for these growers and surrounding towns — is low enough that we are concerned about its capacity to serve as the lower east coast's water supply later in the dry season."

Mr. Finch added, "Southwest Florida needs these immediate mandatory restrictions now to prevent saltwater intrusion into that region's freshwater supply and to reduce declining record-low groundwater levels. We expect that residents of the lower west coast will respond to this

call to conserve, as they always have, to protect their water supply."

Lake Okeechobee's level has continued to drop significantly throughout the fall. The lake did not receive major recharge from the isolated heavy rains that pummeled South Florida's coastal areas in October. The District anticipated that, based on current long-term rainfall predictions and expected water use through May 2001, the lake will not have sufficient water to meet all the demands of its primary users — farmers and towns that draw directly from the lake or to serve as a backup supply for the urban lower east coast.

Last Wednesday's lake level was 11.62 feet, about 3.25 feet below average for this time of year, and it continues to drop daily. For this reason, the District has begun building temporary pumps to deliver approximately 10,500 gallons per second (or 1,400 cubic feet per second) of water to the adjacent growers and urban residents as

well as those farther downstream. These pumps will allow the District to potentially deliver water when Lake Okeechobee drops below 10 feet, the level at which the District no longer can effectively deliver water by gravity to those users south of the lake.

- Phase 3 agricultural restrictions — The District will calculate the agricultural water rationing from Lake Okeechobee weekly and base it on the amount of water available during the period of use (November to June) plus projected water requirements and water needs for the dry season and other high-demand periods. The District will set the total agricultural water ration available to each user in the affected basins so as to minimize possible economic loss and equitably provide for the water-supply demands of those areas.

- Phase 2 restrictions — Lawn watering permitted only on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. for addresses

that end in an odd number: Thursdays and Sundays, 4-8 a.m., for even-number addresses. This and other conservation measures will produce a 15 percent reduction in water use.

More detailed information about water-use restrictions is available on the District's web site at www.sfwmd.gov. Maps of the affected areas are also on the web site under "water shortage."

JESUS PALACIO, M.D., P.A.

1199 S. Main Street, Suite 2 • Belle Glade
(561) 996-6571, ext. 300 • (561) 996-4357

As of December 31, 2000, the office

of Dr. Jesus Palacio will close.

During the month of December, we will still be of service to you, but please make proper arrangements to select a new primary physician for the new year. After the office is closed, you will still have access to your medical records through the Medical Records Department at Glades General Hospital.

Please accept our apology for any inconvenience this may cause you and your family. We would like to say that it has been a great pleasure to serve you. If we can assist you in finding another primary physician, please call or stop by our office.

City

Continued From Page 1
at the marina

Commissioners Garrett and Steve Wilson objected to the expenditure for the snowbirds, saying that money could better be used to benefit the needy residents of Belle Glade. After the motion passed, Commissioner Wilson asked Mr. Wood to find money in the city's budget to help Belle Glade residents by providing more after-holiday clean up of trash and Christmas wrapping. "This way, we can at least give back to our citizens by doing this," said Commissioner Wilson.

Other announcements. City Clerk Debra Buff said the city has scheduled a workshop relative to proposed changes to Code Enforcement, Ordinances and Procedures. The meeting is scheduled for Dec. 18 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The regular commission meetings scheduled for Jan. 1, 2001 and January 15, 2001 were rescheduled for Jan. 3 and Jan. 16, respectively.

A workshop meeting relative to funding priorities was scheduled for Jan. 16 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

New SFWMD pump station opens

South Florida Water Management District officials dedicated a new record-sized pump station in southwest Palm Beach County on Tuesday. Pump station G-310 and its companion G-335 have the world's largest "formed suction inlet pumps." Each station has total pumping capacity of 3,040 cubic feet of water per second or nearly 2 billion gallons per day.

The pump stations are part of the larger Everglades Construction Project. The ECP called for construction of 47,000 acres of constructed wetlands, which includes a network of canals, levees and pump stations. The ECP mandated by the 1988 state Everglades Forever Act, aims to reduce nutrients in stormwater runoff from the Everglades Agricultural Area through these filter marshes known as stormwater treatment areas.

Family needs AC before infant can come home

By Tracy Whirls

After weathering heart transplant surgery Oct. 25, 19-month-old Danielle Hixson is ready to come home from Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami.

The problem is, doctors won't release the child to come home until the air conditioning unit is repaired or replaced.

According to Guardian Ad Litem Case Coordinator Julia Wilkinson, in addition to her other medical problems, the little girl suffers from asthma, and the doctors have prescribed air conditioning to combat the potential adverse effects of breathing poorly ventilated air, particularly during cane harvesting season. The central air conditioning unit in her family's home has broken down, and needed repairs are estimated to cost \$2,000.

Her mother, Edna, works as a secretary in the Palm Beach

County Guardian Ad Litem Office in Belle Glade, and her father, Donell, is employed by Oscose Farms. Both parents had to take leaves of absence from their jobs while their young daughter has been recuperating.

The Guardian Ad Litem Office is accepting donations to assist the family with the cost of air conditioning repairs and living expenses during their ordeal. Donations may be mailed to the Danielle Hixson Benefit Fund, Attn: Julia Wilkinson, Guardian Ad Litem Office, State Road 18, Belle Glade, FL 33430 or may be made directly at any Fidelity Federal Bank location.

Danielle and her parents hope to spend Christmas at home in Pahokee with her older sister and brother, both students at Canal Point Elementary. For more information as to how you can help make that possible, phone Julia Wilkinson at 956-4894.

Each year, The Sun publishes "Letters to Santa" from local third graders. We are able to do this only through the support of our local advertisers. As the year 2000 has been a lean one for many businesses in the area, we are offering very special, very low rates to run ads in the "Letters to Santa" section that will be published on December 21st. Wish your friends, neighbors and customers a

Merry Christmas, and help enable The Sun to continue running "Letters to Santa" every year. The letters are always fun to read, and provide keepsakes for the participating children.

The sales deadline is Friday, December 15. For more information, please contact Brenda or Yvonne at 561-996-4404.

GLADES FUNERAL CHAPEL

presents our Second Annual...

Evening of Remembrance



ENTERTAINMENT

Carol Schmidt

Sean Campbell & Friends,



...The Floridians, and



...Strings of Praise!

...The holidays are a difficult time for many people who have lost a loved one. We invite you, your family and friends to attend a special, uplifting Evening of Remembrance honoring those who are deceased and supporting those who are living. A program of inspirational music and song will be presented followed by a Memory Roll Call in honor of our loved ones.

Saturday, December 9, 2000 at 5:00 PM

THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

**Light buffet will be served, RSVP at 996-6122
and to register for a Memory Dove**

Glades Funeral Chapel

1040 North Main Street

Belle Glade, Florida

(561) 996-6122



200 Palm Beach County children looking for 'forever home'

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza

Speak out is our free 24-hour opinion line. Call 996-6636 to express your opinion or ask a question about public issues. You are not required to give your name. While we want you to speak freely, the newspaper reserves the right to edit calls for clarity, brevity, relevance and fairness.

Regarding police officer

"Hi, I'm a citizen from South Bay. I'm calling in reference to the motorcycle cop in South Bay. It's good to have a cop out there doing something good for the town... but he really needs to focus on bigger crimes that are happening in South Bay, not the minor ones. I've been living in Bell Glade and we've had cars get towed sometimes and I've never been stopped for the darkness of my tint before. He hasn't been here two months, and he's stopped me for the darkness of my tint. He's also given my sister a ticket for this and she had never received a ticket. That's fine if she would have been speeding, but I really do feel he needs to focus on bigger crimes. Last week, you put in The Sun that he was this and that. It's kind of ridiculous that he can sit there and write 44 tickets. I bet half of them weren't even for speeding. He needs to stop focusing on the petty crimes."

Palm Beach Sheriff's Office responses to Speak Out

"I'd like to respond to the citizen who spoke in reference of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's car in Hendry County. As a member of the Sheriff's Office, and a participant in the Take Home Car program, \$40 dollars a month are deducted every month from our paychecks to cover off-duty driving. This more than pays for the commute from Clewiston into Palm Beach County which is exactly three miles. The taxpayers are not harassing people driving down the road. Traffic enforcement is a matter of safety. We've had too many fatalities and far too many wrecks on U.S. Highway 27."

Objectable flyers

"I'm a student at Pahokee Senior/Middle High School. I'm responding to a Speak Out about students at Pahokee High School passing out religious flyers entitled "Letter from Satan." I find this very disheartening that teachers would allow students to pass out these papers that offend other students."

I recall a situation from last year where a student brought a Marilyn Manson book to school. The book is supposedly anti-Christian. School administrators caught the student reading the book and reprimanded her. Students are now able to pass out these leaflets about Satan. If I find it very, very disheartening that people could pass out something like that and not have any repercussions."

Editor's note: This Speak Out was edited to removed individual's names.

World falling apart

"The world is fulfilling. When we took Jesus out of schools and out of our lives the world has been falling apart ever since. Now, man is playing God. He said that man was going to destroy the world. How can we help other countries while we're fighting with ourselves?"

I am sure they don't have respect for us. Now we are in a big mess. Mr. Bush is acting like a spoiled child. If he can't have things his way, he sits and cries like a wimp or a baby crying for candy."

God said he was over the world and not man. I'm glad he is a respectable person."

Thanks to Belle Glade PD

"This is a thank you to Chief Miller and the Belle Glade Police Department."

I had some items stolen from my residence and within three days my items had been located.

Belle Glade Police Department's response to this situation is far above what I consider to be average and I am proud and pleased with the law enforcement operation in our city."

The Sun

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The Sun is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida, Inc., a family-owned company. The company is committed to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. No dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's delegation of public issues.

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A pledge to our readers

We pledge:

- To treat this newspaper as a public trust.
- To help our community become a better place to live and work through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To provide our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to promote our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE - All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are advised that only dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

ERRORS - The liability of the publisher on account of errors, or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge, for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion.

There are almost 200 children in Palm Beach County who are available for adoption, ranging in age from 10 months to 12 years, and from ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Though they are different from one another, they share the same wish — to be placed in loving, permanent "forever homes."

While the Florida Department of Children and Families has designated November as Adoption Month for the last 12 years, DCFS officials urge people to remember these children, particularly as the holidays are upon us.

"I think it is important to bring community awareness all year long," said Laura Bottig, Public Information Director of the Florida Department of Children and Families. "There are children right here in Palm Beach County who are waiting to be adopted. They just want to have a family to love, their forever family. That's their wish."

Past trends in adoption have changed. While there is now a decrease in the number of individuals seeking adoption services, there has been an increase in the total number of children who are placed in adoption agencies due to abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

The Department of Children and Families offers assistance to educate the public concerning adoption, and explodes many misconceptions people may have concerning adoption.

Who qualifies to adopt, a child?

Many people think because they are married or have made substantial arrangements to adopt, they are not qualified to adopt a child in the State of Florida. The living conditions are considered, but no emphasis is placed on financial or marital status. You are also able to adopt a child even if you are not married. You do not need to own a home, or financially secure, the only requirement is that your financial situation be stable and adequate for your needs and the needs of the child. The emphasis is on the welfare of the child.

Parents who are working, single parents who may also adopt a child if they arrange suitable child care for the child when they are at work.

Some think adopting a child is an expensive ordeal. Adopting a child is not expensive. These costs are oftentimes reimbursed through a federal subsidy if the child fits the criteria for special needs. Many of the children waiting for adoption are eligible for adoption subsidy

assistance or financial assistance for medical costs. The Florida Department of Children and Families does not charge for adoption services.

The strength of the adoptive family is considered to ensure that they will be able to meet the needs of the child or children.

The adoption process

Prospective parents must attend the "Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting" (MAPP) training and once they have completed a study, this study will address the family's strengths and needs for the purpose of matching them with those of a waiting child.

Some of the children awaiting adoption are "special needs." Special needs include eight children or older, siblings who need to grow up together, children from ethnic minority backgrounds or are bi-racial. Some have medically complex needs or physical handicaps which affect their activities. Others have learning or emotional problems which influence their behavior.

Once a family is approved, children are presented for consideration. The family does not have to accept any child presented to them. The idea is that adoption is a lifelong relationship that requires a great deal of thought, prudent consideration and commitment.

After deciding upon a child the family believes will fit into their environment, visits are arranged. After a period of visitation, the child may then be formally placed into the home if everyone is agreeable.

There will be a minimum of 90 days of supervision after which your attorney may file a petition to adopt. You will attend a brief hearing before a judge who makes sure all requirements have been met before signing a final order of adoption. You will officially be a family.

One church, one child

The State of Florida also implements special programs like "One Church, One Child" to help families find a child for adoption.

"The One Church, One Child program was implemented in March 1988 to work with African-American churches to locate a family a waiting child in need of a permanent home. Florida is the first state in the nation to pass such legislation.

The program proposes if children continue to be raised by the state, they may not receive the same educational and emotional background which has been the cornerstone of the African-American family. The objectives of this program are: to familiarize congregations with the chil-



Deanna, 22 months old, now has a loving home thanks to the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Edrif, 12 yrs, has been helped by programs set by Florida law regarding adoption.

dring waiting to be adopted; to identify families in a church who are willing to adopt; to educate the public on the need for adoptive homes and about current adoption procedures; to provide support services to adopting families and children through training, communication and location of resources; to decrease the amount of time children are in foster care waiting to be permanently placed with families to call their own.

The One Church, One Child program operates through the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. "Adoption means taking a child into your home, your family, your life, as a permanent family

member," said a spokesman for the Florida Department of Children and Families. "It means that the family and child is established by law with all the legal rights of that relationship. Most importantly it means caring for and guiding children through their growing years, giving them the love and understanding they need to develop their full potential as a person."

If you are interested in learning more about the Adoption Program, please call the Foster Care/ADOPTION Recruitment and Licensing Unit, in Palm Beach County, the number is (407) 616-1427. From elsewhere, the number is 1-800-37-ADOPT.



Got a cold? There's good news and bad news

... Got the sniffles? There's good news and bad news from recent scientific research studies. The bad news is that some popular over-the-counter cold remedies may be downright dangerous to your health.

The good news is Grandma was right - chicken soup is good for you.

According to articles published online at www.HealthCentral.com, a common cold virus called PPA (parvovirus B19) can cause strokes. PPA is also sometimes used in other-over-the-counter cold remedies as an appetite suppressant.

While this may come as a shock to the public, researchers have suggested as far back as 1980 that the risk of stroke increases during the cold and flu season is upon us. If you are taking the drug as an appetite suppressant.

In 1990, the American Journal of Medicine published a PPA study which documented more than 100 cases in which

PPA caused bad reactions including strokes, seizures and even death.

A study recently concluded at Yale University found PPA increases the risk of stroke.

Other researchers appear to be taking a risk, especially if they are taking the drug as a diet aid.

According to [HealthCentral.com](http://www.HealthCentral.com), an expert panel advising the Food and Drug Administration voted last month that PPA should no longer be considered safe for over-the-counter use. Meanwhile, the cold and flu season is upon us and dozens of remedies containing PPA are in stores.

Companies that make the over-the-counter remedies are expected to put up a fight, so

enjoyment that leads to greater adherence.

Researchers now have scientific proof that variety is the spice of life, at least in the workout room.

Adding some variation to your exercise routine may be the best way to make you stick with it, according to a University of Florida study.

"It gets monotonous if you're doing the same thing over and over," said Christopher Janelle, an assistant professor in UF's department of exercise and sport sciences. "If you vary the routine, there's a significant increase in

there is no way to determine just when a ban could go into effect.

What do you do? Read the labels. Ask your doctor which cold remedies are safe for you. This is especially important if you are already at risk for stroke or heart attack problems.

And remember: there's always chicken soup.

For decades grandmothers have been urging cold sufferers to try a little soup.

Now there is scientific evidence that shows Grandma was right.

A Nebraska Researcher, Dr. Stephen Rennard, found that chicken soup slows down the cells that trigger inflammation in the lungs and airways.

Other researchers found that cysteine, an amino acid that comes from chicken, has some of the same properties as acetylcysteine, a drug used to combat bronchitis. Acetylcysteine, which is present in the spices used in chicken soup, helps clear congested airways and onions contain natural substances which help kill bacteria and reduce lung inflammation.

On top of all that, chicken soup tastes good, is low in fat

and has lots of good nutrition.

The peoplepharmacy.com offers the following recipe for chicken soup: "Chicken soup is a time-honored treatment for colds the world over. The trick to making good chicken soup is to add onions, carrots, celery, parsnips, bay leaf, peppercorns and salt to taste. The head of garlic and a few dashes of garlic will enhance the soup's cold-fighting power.

"Once the soup has simmered for several hours, let it cool and strain out the chicken and vegetables. You can cut up the meat and mix it with noodles, rice, pasta or other embellishments, or you can savor the broth as it is. Refrigerating makes it easy to remove the fat.

Remember, check with your doctor before taking any chicken soup diet or exercise regimen. This is especially important if you are on prescription medications. Some drugs interact badly with foods that would otherwise be considered healthy.

about varying their exercise routine; they could do whatever exercises they wanted at each workout session. After each session, participants were asked to fill out a card recording the types of exercises they did, the duration of their exercise sessions, their heart rate and their exertion levels.

Participants in the first group dropped out in 22 percent of the second group and 15 in the third group.

"There were significantly fewer individuals in the variable group that dropped out," Dr. Janelle said. "We also learned from their answers that they enjoyed it significantly more."

The participants in the first two groups were asked to exercise three times a week for eight weeks and given specific exercise guidelines.

The participants in the third group were given no instructions

about varying their exercise routine; they could do whatever exercises they wanted at each workout session. After each session, participants were asked to fill out a card recording the types of exercises they did, the duration of their exercise sessions, their heart rate and their exertion levels.

Participants in the first group dropped out in 22 percent of the second group and 15 in the third group.

"See Exercise — Page 7

Arrest Blotter

Pahokee

The Pahokee Police Department handled 209 calls, issued 17 traffic citations and made 10 arrests the week of Nov. 27-Dec. 3. Those arrested included:

Nov. 27 - No arrests

Nov. 28 - No arrests

Nov. 29 - Chapter Releford, 53, simple battery

Nov. 30 - James Pryor, 27, battery on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest without violence, obstructing and opposing Robert Wada, 24, warrant

Dec. 1 - No arrests

Dec. 2 - Roy Craddock, 44, disorderly intoxication

Dec. 3 - Erman Morris, 38, uttering on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest without violence, obstructing and opposing Robert Wada, 24, warrant

Dec. 4 - No arrests

Dec. 5 - Roy Craddock, 44, disorderly intoxication

Dec. 6 - No arrests

Dec. 7 - No arrests

Dec. 8 - No arrests

Dec. 9 - No arrests

Dec. 10 - No arrests

Dec. 11 - No arrests

Dec. 12 - No arrests

Dec. 13 - No arrests

Dec. 14 - No arrests

Dec. 15 - No arrests

Dec. 16 - No arrests

Dec. 17 - No arrests

Dec. 18 - No arrests

Dec. 19 - No arrests

Dec. 20 - No arrests

Dec. 21 - No arrests

Dec. 22 - No arrests

Dec. 23 - No arrests

Dec. 24 - No arrests

Dec. 25 - No arrests

Dec. 26 - No arrests

Dec. 27 - Jeffrey Williams, 38, loitering and prowling; Charles Grey, 28, loitering and prowling; William McGarrett, 38, failure to appear possession of narcotic paraphernalia, failure to appear conviction of count

Nov. 28 - Willie Britt, 54, simple battery; Dermaine Odome, 25, loitering and prowling; Arthur Williams, 61, two counts of possession after warning; John Williams, 35, possession of marijuanna; Densione McNease, 37, possession of marijuanna under 20 grams

Nov. 29 - Charles Thomas, 57, possession of marijuanna under 20 grams

Nov. 30 - No arrests

Dec. 1 - No arrests

Dec. 2 - No arrests

Dec. 3 - No arrests

Dec. 4 - No arrests

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June. 30 - No arrests

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July. 27 - No arrests

July. 28 - No arrests

July. 29 - No arrests

July. 3

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Sports

Glades Central Raiders host Seffner-Armwood in state semi-final

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza

Less than 10 seconds were left in the game. Number 2 state-ranked Rockledge's play was up. The score was 20-17, in favor of the Raiders.

Not since win number three against New Smyrna Beach had the Raiders been so close to losing as this bout with Rockledge. One successful kick could tie up the scores and force overtime. The ball is snapped...a little too high. Rockledge's kicker

attempts to gain concentration and kicks. He had scored a 24-yard field goal just minutes earlier to move Rockledge within reach of the win; this was only one yard farther out. Every player and spectator freezes in anticipation of what would result. The kick goes wide left and Raider fans let out a loud cheer. The Raiders move on.

Glades Central moves on to the state semifinals with the defeat of Rockledge in one of closest games played since the

start of the game-winning streak. Glades Central managed a slim win against New Smyrna with only a three point difference. With the win, the Raiders made it to their fourth consecutive state regional semifinal appearance and, in the process, extended their streak to 33 games won in a row.

Key plays and maneuverability allowed the Raiders to defeat Rockledge. Junior receiver Joseph Chapelle scored the first touchdown of the night. He caught Michael Brown's 17-

yard pass and helped the team get on the scoreboard as soon as the first quarter. Rockledge would remain scoreless.

The Raiders faced offensive punishment early in the second quarter as Rockledge scored two touchdowns, including a 72-yard touchdown pass. Glades Central launched an offensive retaliation and quickly scored a touchdown. Receiver Santonio Holmes caught a 12-yard pass from Curtis Holley.

Senior D'Juan Brown scored with a 65-yard punt return securing the necessary points needed to win the game. It was now a matter of waiting what would happen.

The last play of the game was a field goal attempt that was cast a little to the left, just enough to end Rockledge's failed attempt to capture the victory.

Running back Michael Brown led the Raiders in rushing. He traveled 101 yards on

12 carries. Quarterback Curtis Holley helped rack one touch-downs for the Raiders and completed 8 of 14 passes for 134 total yards. Antonio Hill ran 89 yards from 4 catches.

The Glades Central Raiders will now move on to face Seffner-Armwood tomorrow night. The Raiders will play hosts. Kick off is at 7:30 p.m. at "The Home of the Raiders" Eiffel G. Great Field. As with any Raider game, expect a good one.

Glades Day Gators say good-bye to a great season

By Jose Jesus Zaragoza

The Glades Day Gators ended a great season after a hard-fought competition against visiting Fort Meade Miners. The Gators were playing their best, but ultimately lost 21-35 after the Miners' offense broke through their defense.

Sophomore receiver Brannan Thomas led the Gators in rushing with 45 yards from 14 carries. Receiver Nick Sanchez earned 119 yards from seven passes. Kyle McNamara completed 15 of 30 passes for 232 yards.

McNamara caught a 45-yard pass from McNamara in the second quarter to score the Gators' first touchdown.

McNamara showed he could work the entire field and ran three yards into the end zone to temporarily lead the game 14-7 in the second quarter. The lead would not exist at the beginning of the third quarter as the Miners quickly countered the Gators' attack and scored.

Glades Day came out in the fourth to try to regain the lead. Micah Thomas and McNamara once again teamed up to score. Thomas scored a 28-yard 4 when Micah caught an 8-yard pass from his quarterback and ran it into the end zone. The

touchdown would prove too little, too late, as the Gators watched Fort Meade score right after their own touchdown.

After starting what would later be considered a mediocre season, the Gators developed as a team and demonstrated they were a force in football. The team really shined in the playoffs as they pulled off unexpected victories and did so in a very convincing manner, always outscoring the rival team by a large margin of points.

Team members Brannan and

Micah Thomas, Kyle McNamara, Eric Molaro and Nick Sanchez contributed to the team's great success. Brannan and Micah would run the field as Kyle would eye his next target and follow it with the proficiency of an expert marksman.

The team is looking forward to a great season next year as they are only losing a few players who are graduating seniors this year. This marks the end of a very surprising and enjoyable season for the Gators and the Gator fans.



Richard Hodges takes a break from the game during the third quarter to study his teammates. He quickly got up and entered the game again.

Players from the Glades Day School football team march back onto the field to counter Fort Meade's arsenal. The Gators just narrowly missed moving on in the playoffs.

Hunted deer make up for losses of bucks, UF research shows

By Aaron Hoover

As fall hunting season opens in Florida and other states, a University of Florida professor says America's native white-tailed deer have some unique ways to compensate for hunting.

Hunters most often pursue bucks, both for trophy value and because shooting does in many states is illegal or highly restricted. That might seem to threaten deer populations because it cuts into the number of males available to mate. But Ron Labinsky, professor of wildlife ecology and conservation with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, says his research shows that deer make up for the loss of bucks with a unique response: Does in areas where hunting is allowed give birth to considerably more male fawns than female fawns.

"We don't usually give animals due credit for persistence, especially deer," said Dr. Labinsky, who has spent three decades researching white-tailed deer. "With males-only hunting, it is very, very difficult to deplete a deer population."

General deer hunting season opens at different times in Florida during the fall (the season opened this past Saturday in Central Florida). While it typically lasts through January or February, hunters are allowed only two days to kill deer that have no antlers, including does.

General deer hunting season opens at different times in Florida during the fall (the season opened this past Saturday in Central Florida). While it typically lasts through January or February, hunters are allowed only two days to kill deer that have no antlers, including does.

Wildlife Management Area and the Rotenberger Wildlife Management Area.

More than 90 percent of the does in all the areas were pregnant, the research found. Males comprised 56 percent of the fetuses in the hunted areas but just 39 percent in the non-hunted areas, it found. As if that weren't enough, the researchers also found 38 percent of does on hunted sites carried intact fawns, compared with just 14 percent on non-hunted sites.

"Productivity was higher on hunted than non-hunted sites," wrote Dr. Labinsky in a summary of the study, which appeared in the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. "Why would deer give birth to more males in areas where bucks are hunted?" Dr. Labinsky said the doe's reproductive cycle offers one explanation for the adaptation for the adaptation.

Does typically go into heat for about 72 hours, he said. In non-hunted areas, they find mates quickly, while they take longer to find mates in hunted areas. The later does breed while they're in heat, the greater the proportion of male fetuses, Dr. Labinsky said.

In a related research project, Dr. Labinsky found that while does typically wait for bucks to find them, they actually seek out bucks in hunted areas where there are fewer around.

From the white-tailed deer's perspective, the findings are good news. On the other hand, the research likely means the animals will continue to be a nuisance in some states.

Dr. Labinsky said experts believe the population of deer in the United States is about equal to

what it was before Europeans arrived, with somewhere between 24 million and 34 million nationwide. That's up from just 350,000 in 1900, when the population crashed largely because of unregulated hunting.

Non-hunted states have the biggest problem with overpopulation of deer because their fields provide so much forage — at a time when many of the deer's traditional predators such as wolves and bears no longer pose a threat.

Deer in the Midwest also give birth to more fawns, and more of the fawns survive, than in the South. Dr. Labinsky's research has found.

In Florida, by contrast, "our groceries aren't as good," Dr. Labinsky said. Unlike states such as Wisconsin, with at least 2 million deer, Florida has about 600,000 deer.

The state's deer population is relatively stable — in part because of the deer's unique compensation to hunting, Dr. Labinsky said.

Tips on saving water indoors

The South Florida Water Management District offers the following suggestions for conserving water:

1. Never pour water down the drain. If you must, consider reusing it for such as watering a plant or garden, or for cleaning.

2. Verify that your home is leak free. Many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period. If no meter is reading, then if the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

3. Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at a rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year.

4. Take shorter showers. Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version. Some units are available that allow you to cut off the flow without adjusting the water temperature knobs.

5. Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, it will appear in the toilet bowl within 30 minutes. Check the toilet for worn out, corroded or bent parts. Most replacement parts are inexpensive, readily

available and easily installed. (Flush as soon as is done, since food coloring may stain tank.)

6. If the toilet handle frequently sticks, adjust the position letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.

7. Install a toilet dam or displacement device such as a bag or bottle to cut down on the amount of water needed for each flush. Be sure installation does not interfere with the operating parts. When replacing old replacement toilets, consider low-volume units which use less than half the water of older models. In many areas, low-volume units are required by law.

8. Take shorter showers. Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version. Some units are available that allow you to cut off the flow without adjusting the water temperature knobs.

9. Place a bucket in the shower to catch excess water and use it to water plants. The same technique can be used when washing dishes or vegetables in the sink.

10. In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather

up; then turn back on to rinse hair. Repeat when washing your hair.

11. Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded. Set water level for the size of load you are using.

12. When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet.

13. Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don't let the tap run while you are waiting for cool water to flow.

14. Do not waste running water by turning on a faucet to rinse meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.

15. Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternative method of disposing of food waste. Compost can be used in gardens.

Kitchen sink disposals can add 50 percent to the volume of solids in a septic tank, which can lead to malfunctions and maintenance problems.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Need a Santa?

Having a Christmas Party?

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Mark Challancin

Mark Challancin, 85, a pioneer Glades resident who arrived in South Bay in 1918, died at his home in Belle Glade on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2000. He was engaged in farming for many years before building the J-Mark Fish Camp on Torry Island, which he operated with his wife, Mildred, until his retirement. A true son of the Glades, he was a hunter, trapper and enjoyed fishing and hunting. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Mildred, sons Mike (Donna) and Jim, (Donna Jeanne) who now operate the J-Mark Fish Camp, daughter Vicki (Norman) of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; grandchildren Lisa (Steve) Gallagher, Mark, Brundige, Alabama, Ashley, Naples, Michael, Daytona Beach and Zachary Popovics, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; great-grandchildren Lise (Steve) Gallagher, Mark, Brundige, Alabama, Ashley, Naples.

Friends may call at Glades Funeral Chapel Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Friday, Dec. 6 at St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church in Belle Glade at 11 a.m. with Father Louis Ameito officiating. Interment will follow at Port Mayaca Cemetery.

Arrangements by Glades Funeral Chapel of Belle Glade.

Victoria Challancin

Victoria Challancin, age 87, of South Bay died Saturday, Dec. 2, 2000 at Hospice of Palm Beach County. Ms. Challancin was born in Lawley in 1913 and has been a resident of the Glades for many years where she engaged in the farming business. She was a member of St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church in Belle Glade. She was an avid gardener and enjoyed cooking, sewing and was devoted to her family.

Survivors include her loving sister Mary Ruth Clark of Tampa and other family members.

Friends may call at Glades Funeral Chapel Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Friday, Dec. 6 at St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church in Belle Glade at 11 a.m. with Father Louis Ameito officiating. Interment will follow at Port Mayaca Cemetery.

The chapter voted to give toys for the toy drive for children sponsored by the Belle Glade chamber. Members also agreed to donate \$100 to ARC for articles for the clients there. They also agreed to hold a yard sale in February.

The chapter will attend the Tour of Homes Dec. 15.

The program for the meet-

ing was very informative and was presented by Fire Marshal Don Hamilton.

He talked about fire danger in the home and how to escape if you should have a fire. The Fire Department will help residents install smoke detectors and where to place your fire extinguisher.

The chapter will meet Dec. 4 to reveal who their secret sisters of the year were.

Those attending were Linda McMillan, Jane Evans, Sara Phillips, Karen Corbin, Judy McMillan, Gloria Swager, Florence Acree, Laurel Tarr and Greadie York.

ATTENTION!

The office of The Sun will be closed on Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th. As a result, our deadlines for the issue of December 28th have been moved up. If you need to submit articles or purchase advertising space, please adhere to the following deadlines:

ADVERTISING SALES:
Friday, December 22, Noon

NEWS SUBMISSION:
Friday, December 22, 5:00 P.M.
Happy Holidays!

Expect more.

Expect more new initiatives to serve you better in 2001.

New to the Glades!

Life, Health and Variable Annuities Insurance
Insurance class that prepares for state licensure in four hours. Learn insurance terminology and concepts, federal and state regulations, legal contracts. (Fla Dept of Insurance #3089)

1/20 - 2/3 SSU 9 AM-6PM \$61 FL resident

New, flexible schedule

Classes for Accounting Operations, Accounting Principles, Medical Services, PC Support Specialists

Set your own schedule and work at your own pace in the Office Occupations lab afternoons and evenings starting in January.

Child Care Classes

10-Hour Behavioral Observation and Discipline
1/20 - 1/27 Sat 8:30AM-2:30PM \$15 FL resident

Child Development Associate Modules
1/23 - 2/22 Thurs 6-10PM \$60 FL resident

Continuing Education for Registered Nurses

Clinical Application of 12 Level ERGs

*Required prerequisite for RNs taking this course

Critical Care or Cardiovascular Nursing courses

1/23 - 4/10 Tues 9AM-1:15PM \$144 FL resident

PLUS

Computer Basics I

1/11 - 2/01 Thurs 6-9PM \$69 FL resident

Hands-on computer course for the beginner

Book Grouping in Florida

1/20 - 2/27 Tues 10AM-noon \$30 FL resident

Taught by Barbara Oehlbeck, author of *For the Love of Roses*

Children First

1/18 Thurs 6-10PM \$30 FL resident

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• Advertised item or grouping per ad must be \$2,500 or less

• Ads must be in the newspaper and be visible to the public

• Ads must be in the newspaper and be visible to the public

The Sun

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The Sun, Thursday, December 7, 2000

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Grace Healthcare Center has a position available for a Central Supply Clerk. Responsibilities include ordering of supplies, maintaining inventory and par levels, input of ancillary charges and stocking the supply areas. Must have computer skills, good with people, be self-directed and budget management experience.

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